

# The Romulus News

JANUARY 26, 2007 – FEBRUARY 8, 2007

"the little paper"

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 13

## Timely Tidbits ...

### School District To Hold Kindergarten Roundup

Parents who attend the Romulus Community Schools' annual Kindergarten Roundup to register their eligible child (four years old as of December 1, 2006) for the 2007–2008 school year will be *guaranteed* the opportunity to place their child in an all-day/every-day kindergarten class.

The program will be held at each of the district's six elementary schools from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, February 5.

For more information, please see the notice/enrollment form on page 7.

### Chamber Hosts Wine-tasting/Silent Auction

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will hold its 8th Annual Silent Auction & Wine-Tasting Dinner at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott Hotel on Friday, February 9, from 6:15 to 10 p.m.

The evening will feature a sampling of wines to complement the four-course gourmet meal as well as an opportunity to bid on a variety of auction items.

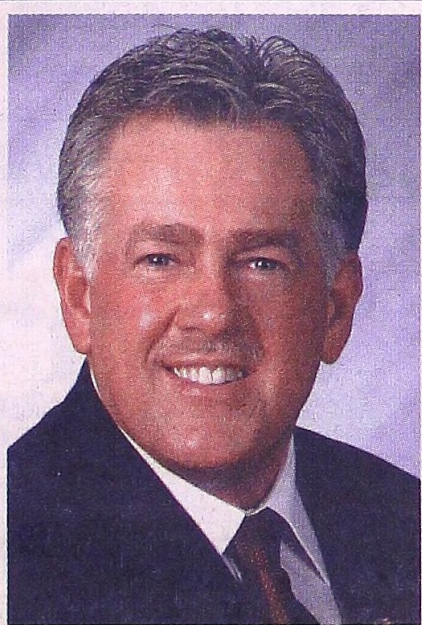
For tickets (\$50 per person or \$360 for a table of eight), contact executive assistant Karen La Belle at 734-893-0694.

### Rec Offers Trip To Pistons–76ers Game

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation is urging the community's basketball fans to come out for the upcoming Detroit Pistons–Philadelphia 76ers game, set for Sunday, April 15. A fee of \$50 per person includes transportation to and from the game, entry into the MPRA Hoops Challenge basketball skills competition, a pregame kids' clinic, and tickets valued at \$40 for the game. Bus will depart from the Recreation Office (11189 Shook Road) at 10 a.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m.

Register (cash only) by Thursday, February 8. For more information, call 734-941-8665. □

## Mayor Outlined Recent Accomplishments, Future Goals in 'State of the City' Address



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

Mayor Alan R. Lambert's annual "State of the City" address – delivered during the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce's monthly business luncheon on January 16 – was a reassuring message for Romulus residents facing difficult economic times.

"Today, I am pleased to report that the state of our city is strong, and our future looks even better," said Lambert. "During the past year alone, Romulus was named the third highest city in Wayne County to successfully bring in new commercial development and new jobs to our city. ... Nearly half a billion dollars in estimated construction has taken place in this city since I first assumed office [five years ago]."

Lambert acknowledged that the City will face many challenges in the coming years, but he believes that his adminis-

tration is up to the task of meeting them through a combination of continued development and financial prudence.

"I am proud to say that we are continuing our own aggressive economic development initiatives at the City level," he noted. "It is our goal to have new companies and their employees find Romulus an exciting place to live, to work, and to do business."

These efforts have led to a number of current and upcoming developments, said Lambert, including the construction of a new Fairfield Inn Hotel and a Public Service Credit Union corporate office, as well as plans for another new hotel and retail complex at the former Ramada Inn site.

With regard to his pledge of continued fiscal responsibility, Lambert noted,

*continued on page 8*

## 400+ Turn Out for Annual King Day Celebration

The Romulus community's annual celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was attended by record crowds, reported Romulus Community Schools spokesperson Dick Kruse. Over 400 people took part in a Unity March from Cory Elementary to Romulus High School, and more than 600 attended the subsequent breakfast and commemorative program at RHS.

The event was a collaborative effort among previous years' organizers – the school district, the City of Romulus, and the Romulus Ministerial Alliance – as well as newcomers from Wayne County and the community.

Following their chilly walk along Wayne Road, Unity March participants warmed up with a pancake breakfast served by RHS culinary-arts assistant Angelica Richardson, district Athletics Department director Mark Woodson, RHS basketball coach Nate Oats, and members of Oats's team. The breakfast was donated by the Romulus Education Association, the Romulus Association of School Administrators, Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert, and Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

Kicking off the special program commemorating the life and work of Dr. King were Reverend Arthur Willis and youth groups from Pentecostal Baptist Church, who performed vocal and dance selec-

tions. The program also included an invocation by Reverend Mark Miller of Community United Methodist Church, greetings and acknowledgments by

RCS superintendent Carl J. Weiss and Mayor Lambert, and selections performed by the RHS Marching Band

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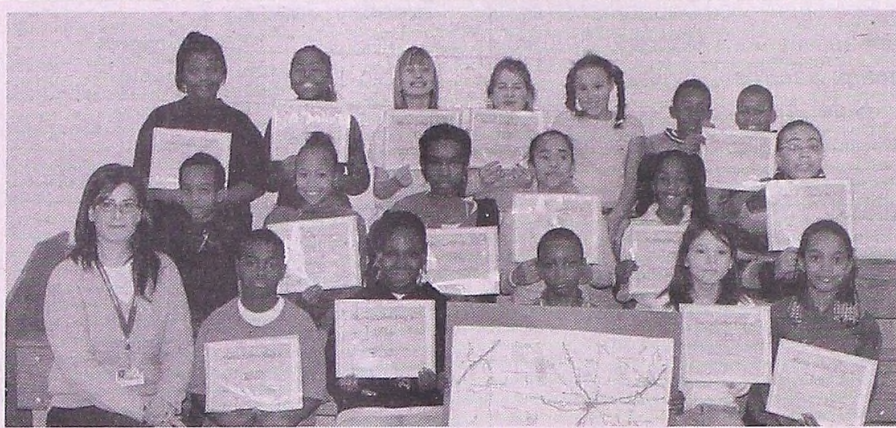


In keeping with the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Shannon McCollum-Mullins (center), coordinator of the new LEAGUE community-service program at Romulus High School, presented RHS students Jennifer Logan (left) and Jennifer Dick (right) with \$500 grants to be used as seed money for local charity fund-raisers. The new grant program is named for Lorena Burton (pictured), who was reportedly the first African-American to attend Romulus Community Schools.

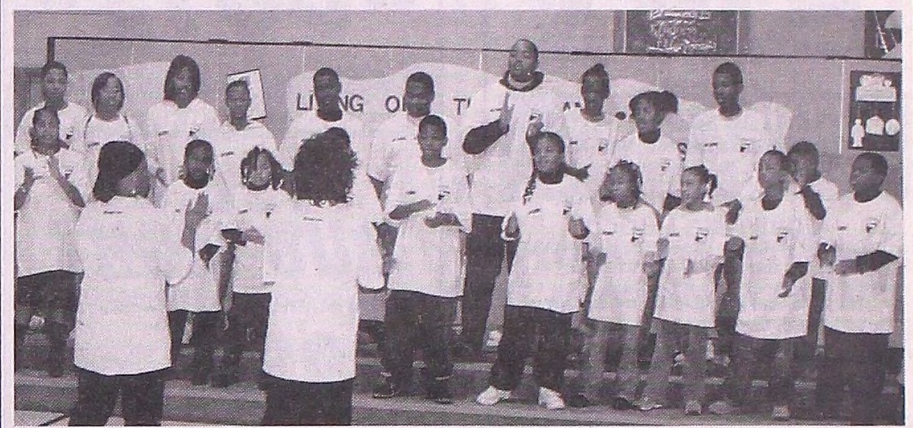




# Celebrating MLK Day



Making a timeline presentation about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for their school's celebration were Merriman teacher Michelle Misiak's (left) fourth graders: (from left) front – LeAndre Childs, Marquala Woodward, James Hunt, Samantha Krause, and Erunique Roach; middle – Dante McClain, Clea Clark, Jazmin Vaughn, Mariah Borders, Jasmine Morrison, and Gabrielle Walton; back – DeJanice Rush, Tamia Gamble, Ashley Luttmann, Amanda Segur, Akira Battle, Dushone Eldridge, and Jarell Crawford.



The annual community celebration of Dr. King's life kicked off at Cory Elementary, where the Pentecostal Baptist Church student choir (above) did a great job entertaining the people who gathered at the school to take part in a Unity March. Walkers traveled from Cory to Romulus High School, where they were treated to breakfast (courtesy of the school district's teachers' and administrators' unions, as well as Mayor Alan Lambert and Wayne County CEO Robert Ficano) and a special commemorative program.



Speakers at the commemorative program included Kyle Caldwell.



The 400+ Unity March participants formed an impressive line as they traveled down Wayne Road from Cory to Romulus High School.



Local dignitaries who took part in the Unity March included: (from left) front – Reverend Percy Madison, Dorothy West, Jakleen O'Chalek, John Barden, Reverend Arthur Willis, Alan Lambert, Harry Crout, Reverend Clarence Love, Don Foley, ShaVonna Johnson, and Rhonda Henry; middle – Kelly Knight, Reverend Steve Adams (behind Knight), Ellen Craig-Bragg, Tom Dolan, Randy Gear, Reverend Mark Miller, Reverend David Holt, Carl Weiss, and David Parrott; back – Reverend Cornelius Pittman, Reverend Rita Talley, LeRoy Burcroff, Ed Clark, and Doug Hoffman.

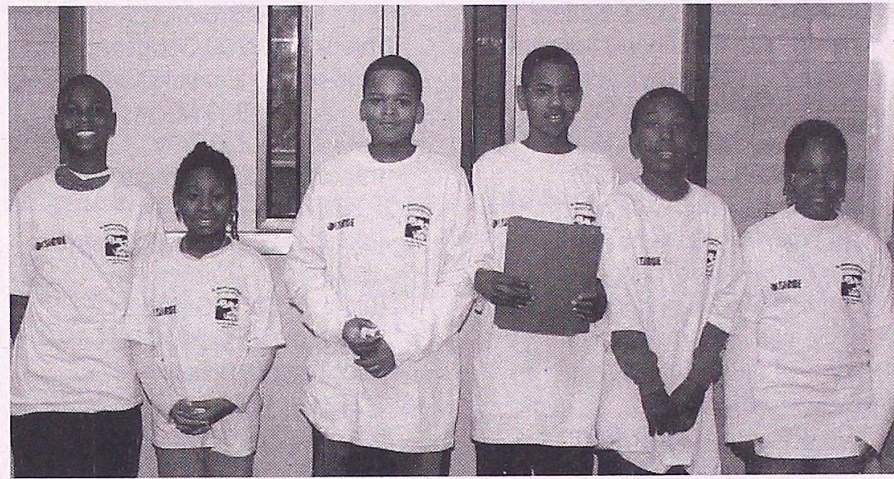


State Senator Raymond Basham (left) and State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood greeted the audience at the commemorative program.

# Celebrating MLK Day



Performers from Cory Elementary School included: (from left) D'Immanuel Bland, Mia Reed, David Bland, James Davis, Miyona Barden-Clark, Jeshani Shinn, and Jelani Shinn.



Merriman Elementary students who took part in the program included: (from left) Damon White, Tajanne Woodward, Tariq Hadin, DeShawn Pickett, DeMarco Woodward, and Marquella Woodward.



Among the student performers from Wick Elementary were: (from left) front – Nicholas Grantham, Shayla Johnson, Kaliah Kirkpatrick, Andrea Williams, Romney Funderburg, Pyrce Lee, John Adams, and Aujane Shreve; back – Keiairah Smith, Shala Riemke, Damien Williamson, Alicia Adams, Maurice Mathews, and Cody Householder.



Merriman Elementary principal Shellie Moore (left) and fifth-/sixth-grade teacher Ruthanne Lhiva (right) were proud of students (from left) Deven Thompson, DeShawn Pickett, Majone Dotson, and Demonte Brown, who gave an excellent presentation about the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Romulus City Councilwoman Ellen Craig-Bragg directed Romulus High School Choir members performing her original composition, "Pass It On."



Students from Romulus Middle School presented a special skit entitled "Get on the Bus."



# ATTENTION: FUTURE KINDERGARTEN PARENTS

If your child was four years old by December 1st, 2006, he/she will be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2007. The Romulus Community Schools will offer both full-day/every-day and half-day/every-day kindergarten programs.

This year, *the Romulus school district will guarantee all-day/every-day kindergarten classes for each student enrolled on or before Kindergarten Roundup Day (February 5th, 2007).* Parents who cannot attend Kindergarten Roundup Day will still be able to register their children from February 6th–22nd. *The district cannot guarantee all-day/every-day kindergarten for those students who enroll after February 22nd.*

Your area elementary school will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Roundup Day (February 5th) to allow you ample time to fill out the necessary documents for kindergarten registration. Hours for those who come from February 6th–22nd will be 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Barth and Merriman, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cory, Halecreek, Wick, and Romulus Elementary.

We look forward to having your child in our exciting kindergarten program next year. If you have any additional questions and/or concerns, please contact your area elementary school. Telephone numbers for these schools are: Barth (734-532-1250), Cory (532-1300), Halecreek (532-1350), Merriman (532-1400), Romulus (532-1450), and Wick (532-1500).

Note: Cory, Halecreek, and Merriman elementaries will be offering Schools of Choice opportunities for the 2007–2008 school year. Call Carole Bales (734-532-1610) for more information on how to take advantage of this opportunity.

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PARENT REQUEST FORM FOR 2007 KINDERGARTEN

DATE RECEIVED (office use only) \_\_\_\_\_



I (Parent or Legal Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

am enrolling my child \_\_\_\_\_

in the Romulus School District's kindergarten program for the 2007 – 2008 school year. I understand that my child must be 5 years of age by December 1st, 2007 in order to be eligible. I would prefer:

\_\_\_\_\_ A. All-day / every-day kindergarten

\_\_\_\_\_ B. 1/2-day / every-day kindergarten

### Features include:

- child-care services available for half-day students
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## Community Calendar

- Family Reading/Science Program: "Wild Weather, Changing Climate"**  
 – The Romulus Public Library is joining with the Ann Arbor Exhibit Museum of Natural History and University of Michigan science students for a series of free hands-on programs designed to provide families with opportunities to read and learn together about changing climate. These workshops – held on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m., will include: **Curious About Climate: Why Weather Works** (January 22), **Stormy Surprises: When Weather Goes Wild!** (February 19), and **Backyard Meteorology: Forecasting the Future** (March 19). For more information, call 734-942-7589 during the library's regular business hours: Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m.
- Interpretive Dance** – There's still time to register for the Romulus Recreation Department's interpretive dance class, which focuses on creative movements that are expressions of one's inner feelings and emotional alliance to God, shown through synchronized movements (liturgical) to Christian music. The class – open to boys & girls ages eight and up – will meet at the Recreation Office (11189 Shook Road) from 6 to 7 p.m. each Thursday from January 25 through March 1. Cost is \$35 per person; preregistration is required. For more information, call 734-941-8665.
- Church Offers African-American History Month Programs** – The Lutheran Church of Our Savior (29425 Annapolis, corner of Middlebelt, Westland) is inviting the public to attend its African-American History Month series: "Educating Youth Through Mentoring." The programs, to be held Thursdays at 7 p.m., will include presentations by Judge Jeffery G. Collins (February 1), Representative Alma Wheeler-Smith (February 8), Academy of Westland principal Christopher Lindsey (February 15), and Winship Elementary School principal Kay Williams-Hales (February 22). For more information, call 734-728-3440.
- Senior Center Offers Trips** – The Romulus Senior Center invites local senior citizens to sign up for one or more of the following bus tours: **Windsor Casino** (February 6; \$10), **Isle of Capri Casino** (February 28–March 2; \$229), **Myrtle Beach, South Carolina** (March 3–10; \$699), **Windsor Raceway** (March 6; \$10), and **Springtime in Connecticut** (March 26–31; \$771). For more information, call 734-955-4120.
- Free Tax Service for Seniors, Others** – From 12:30 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday from February 7 through April 11, the Romulus Senior Center will be offering free tax-preparation services – *by appointment only* – to Romulus senior citizens (age 60 and older) as well as disabled and low-income individuals. A list of the various materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. For more information, or to make an appointment, stop in at the Center, located at 36525 Bibbins, or call 734-955-4120.
- "Second Monday" Book Club** – Meetings of the Romulus Public Library's Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Advance registration is not required; just read the suggested book, then drop in. Copies of the suggested books will be available at the library, or library staff members can assist you in getting an interlibrary loan. Books planned for upcoming discussions include **Divided Minds: Twin Sisters and Their Journey Through Schizophrenia** by Pamela Spiro Wagner and Carolyn S. Spiro, M.D. (February 12) and **Light in August** by William Faulkner (March 12). For more information, call 734-942-7589 during the library's regular business hours: Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m.
- Preschool Story Time** – Children three to five years old are invited to take part in the Romulus Public Library's next Preschool Storytime session, which will feature age-appropriate stories and crafts. Parents may choose between morning (10:30 a.m. Wednesdays from February 21 through March 28) and evening (6:30 p.m. Tuesdays from February 20 through March 27) sessions. Although the program is free, space is limited. For more information, or to register, call 734-942-7589 during the library's regular business hours: Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907





